

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims and add new claims, as follows.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-26. (Previously Canceled)

Claim 27. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of a scopolamine free base containing transdermal system substantially free of crystals of scopolamine free base, comprising annealing scopolamine free base containing layers of said transdermal system at a temperature above the melting point of the crystals for a period of time sufficient to melt ~~the scopolamine free base anhydrous crystals, wherein the annealing process is performed within about 24 hours of after casting a scopolamine free base containing formulation onto a web or after forming a laminate with a scopolamine free base containing formulation for use in constructing said transdermal system substantially free of scopolamine free base anhydrous crystals.~~

Claim 28. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 27, wherein said transdermal system is further packaged and further heat treated at a temperature of at least 67° C to about 90° C for a period of about 4 hours to about 24 hours.

Claim 29. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~1727~~, wherein said annealing takes place at about 75° C to about 90° C.

Claim 30. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 27, wherein said annealing takes place over a period of about 2 – 10 minutes.

Claim 31. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 27, wherein a drug reservoir layer containing scopolamine free base and a contract adhesive layer containing scopolamine free base are each separately annealed, then contacted and further annealed prior to packaging.

Claim 32. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing delivery devices for the transdermal administration of scopolamine comprising, in combination:

- a. forming a laminate, at least one lamina of which comprises a dispersion of said scopolamine in a non-aqueous matrix;
- b. cutting subunits forming said delivery devices from said laminate;
- c. packaging said delivery devices in sealed containers;
- d. heating said delivery devices in said containers to a temperature above the melting point of anhydrous crystalline scopolamine hydrate and maintaining said delivery devices at such temperature for a time sufficient to prevent the formation or eliminate the presence of anhydrous crystals of scopolamine hydrate for a substantial period of time after cooling of the subunits to ambient temperatures; and
- e. cooling the delivery devices to ambient temperatures;

wherein the improvement~~the heating~~ comprising heating at least each scopolamine containing layer to a temperature exceeding the melting point of scopolamine anhydrous crystal for a period of time sufficient to melt the crystals, ~~which improvement~~the heating step is being conducted prior to ~~but within about 24 hours~~, or during the process, ~~- or of~~ laminating and/or sealing the scopolamine containing layer.

Claim 33. (New) A process for the production of a scopolamine free base containing transdermal system substantially free of anhydrous crystals of scopolamine free base, comprising annealing scopolamine free base containing layers of said transdermal system at a temperature above the melting point of the anhydrous crystals for a period of time sufficient to melt the crystals, wherein the annealing process is performed within a period after casting a scopolamine free base containing formulation onto a web for use in constructing said transdermal system so as to result in a transdermal system substantially free of anhydrous scopolamine crystals, wherein said annealing takes place at about 75° C to about 90° C.

Claim 34. (New) The process of claim 27, wherein the heating and annealing process is done immediately after casting a scopolamine free base containing formulation onto a web or immediately after forming a laminate with a scopolamine free base containing formulation.

Claim 35. (New) The process of claim 27, further comprising annealing the transdermal system at a temperature above the melting point of scopolamine after packaging in pouch.

Claim 36. (New) The process of claim 27, further comprising annealing a laminate that includes a scopolamine free base containing layer laminated to a nonporous non-scopolamine-containing layer.

Claim 37. (New) The process of claim 36, further comprising removing the nonporous non-scopolamine-containing layer before packaging the transdermal system in pouch.

Claim 38. (New) The process of claim 27, comprising two heating and annealing steps, one heating step being immediately after casting the scopolamine free base containing formulation onto a web.